

**REMARKS**

Claims 3-8 are pending. By this response, claim 7 is amended. Reconsideration and allowance based on the above amendments and following remarks are respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 3-8 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Clark (US 4,332,430) in view of Suguro, et al. (US 4,972,295) and Grabbe (US 4,873,615). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The object of the present invention is to provide a tab terminal that suppresses the height from the printed circuit board when mounted onto the printed circuit board, and is firmly fixed to the printed circuit board at the same time.

In order to achieve the object, the tab terminal includes the tab terminal body to be arranged parallel to the printed circuit board, the tab portion extending from the tab terminal body parallel to the printed circuit board, and the first and second legs extending from the tab terminal body toward the printed circuit board. The first and second legs have their respective feet extending toward each other. When the tab terminal according to the present invention is mounted onto the printed circuit board, a wedge-shaped gap is formed between each of the feet and the printed circuit board.

When the tab terminal of the present invention is mounted onto the printed circuit board, the wedge-shaped gaps are filled with solder. The solder not only electrically connects but also mechanically and firmly bonds the tab terminal of the present invention to the printed circuit board.

Furthermore, the feet in the present application extend toward each other, so that the distance between the feet is short, and this makes it possible to interpose the solder in between

these feet. As a result, the bond between the tab terminal and the printed circuit board is further stabilized.

The Examiner alleges that Clark and Suguro can be combined to teach applicants claimed features. Clark discloses a connector that carries out similar functions to the tab terminal of the present application. Suguro et al discloses a connection terminal 22, which has the base plate portion 22a alleged to correspond to the foot of the present application. If the base plate portion 22a of Suguro et al is applied to each of the legs of Clark, it is not possible to form a wedge-shaped gap as in the present application between the base plate portion 22a and the printed circuit board because of the flatness of the base plate portion 22a.

Further, Grabbe discloses a lead 36 having a J-shaped leg. The leg of Grabbe has a circular arc-shaped foot that is convex toward the printed circuit board in its lower part. If the leg of Grabbe is applied to each of the legs of Clark, however, it does not create a foot like the one described in the present application since the foot of Grabbe is formed into a circular arc. Therefore, it is not possible to create a wedge-shaped gap between the foot of Grabbe and the printed circuit board.

In addition, when the foot has the shape of a circular arc, the tip end of the foot is greatly curled up off the printed circuit board. Therefore, it is hard to conceive the technical idea of interposing solder in between the tip ends of two legs, which is a characteristic of the present invention, from the leg of Grabbe.

Thus, the combination of Clark, Suguro and Grabbe fail to teach or suggest, *inter alia*,  
a tab portion aligned with tab terminal body so as to integrally extend from the one end edge of said tab terminal body in a longitudinal direction of said tab terminal body, said tab

portion being adapted to be connected with an electrical connecting part; first and second legs formed integrally with said tab terminal body so as to extend from the opposite side edges of said tab terminal body in a direction perpendicular to said tab terminal, respectively; and first and second feet formed integrally with said first and second legs so as to extend from distal end edges of said first and second legs substantially parallel to said tab terminal body respectively, so that first and second feet forms first and second contacts to be connected with the printed circuit board, and wherein said first and second feet extend in direction toward each other at an angle slightly smaller than right angle with respect to said first and second legs, respectively so that wedge-shaped gaps are defined between said first and second feet and the printed circuit board respectively, when the tab terminal is mounted on the printed circuit board, as recited in claim 7.

Therefore, in view of the above, applicants respectfully submit that the combination of Clark, Suguro and Grabbe fail to teach each and every feature of independent claim 7 as required. Dependent claims 3-6 and 8 are also distinguishable over the cited references for the above references as well as for the additional features they recite. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

### Conclusion

For at least these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that claims 3-8 are distinguishable over the cited art. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Chad J. Billings (Reg. No. 48,917)

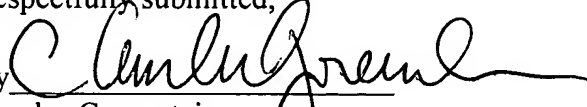
at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Dated: June 9, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Charles Gorenstein

Registration No.: 29,271

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

8110 Gatehouse Road

Suite 100 East

P.O. Box 747

Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747

(703) 205-8000

Attorney for Applicant